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8 March 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

FROM :
Director of Central Reference

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SUBJECT : Automatic Storage and Retrieval of FBIS Materials

REFERENCE : Memorandum to D/FBIS from C/AG/FBIS, Dated
5 February 1982, Same Subject*John:*

1. This memorandum responds to your request for comments on the conclusions and recommendations in paragraph 8 of the referent.

2. The conclusion of your task force that SAFE offers a technically feasible solution to some of your storage and retrieval problems is valid and accurate. Many other non-DDI components have come to the same conclusion--SAFE concepts offer at least a partial solution to many of their known automation problems.

3. Unfortunately, even in its present size, the SAFE system is encountering numerous difficulties in achieving implementation within DDI offices. The project is currently undergoing an internal audit by a joint CIA/DIA team chaired by the Agency architect. This team will investigate the contractor's progress against DDI requirements and will report on their findings to the DDA and ADDI in early April. At this time, therefore, to consider approaching the DDI to enlarge the scope of SAFE does not seem the most immediate way for FBIS to proceed. SAFE must first be brought into the DDI, evaluated, tested, debugged, and then extended to its intended size before it can be expanded elsewhere in the Agency.

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4. Until SAFE is fully tested and implemented in the DDI, OCR experience with NEXIS suggests that it might be an effective vehicle for your Analysis Group to further exploit the DAILY REPORT. It will also provide your staff with valuable operating experience so essential to any future discussions of SAFE expansion or any enhancements to internal FBIS programs. The inclusion of the DAILY REPORT into NEXIS will also provide for direct DDI access to the DAILY REPORT via a terminal in the Agency Library.

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5. I found the report of your team very interesting reading. OCR is interested in your automation efforts, and I appreciate your sharing the report with OCR personnel.



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